

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, August 3, 2020

Committee Members Present: Chamblis, Cummings, Johnson, Lee, Vento, Wulff

Committee Members Absent: Atlas-Ingebretson, Lilligren, Muse

Committee Members Excused:

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Vice Chair Vento called the regular meeting of the Council's Community Development Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 3, 2020.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Lee to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2020 regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. Motion carried.

[Click here to view the August 3, 2020 Community Development Committee meeting video.](#)

BUSINESS

2020-212 JT: Credit River Township 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Review File 22100-1

Planning Analyst Patrick Boylan presented the business item to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Lee, that the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:

Recommendations of the Community Development Committee

1. Authorize Credit River Township to place its 2040 Comprehensive Plan into effect.
2. Revise the Township's forecasts upward as shown in Table 1 and establish sanitary sewer forecasts as shown in Table 2 of the attached Review Record.
3. Revised the Township's Community Designation for portions of the community to Emerging Suburban Edge as shown in Figure 3 of the attached Review Record.
4. Advise the Township to:
 - a. Provide to the Council the date that the Scott County WMO approved the LWMP and the date that the Township adopted the final LWMP.
 - b. In the Final Plan submission to the Council, update the Future Parks and Trails map on Plan pages 4-15, 8-5, and 8-19 to be consistent with the Regional Parks System map that appears in the Township's 2015 System Statement.
 - c. Implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Land Use and Water Supply.

Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions or discussion.

2020-213 JT: City of Cottage Grove 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Review File 22236-1

Planning Analyst Patrick Boylan presented the business item to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Johnson, that the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:

Recommendations of the Community Development Committee

1. Authorize the City of Cottage Grove to place its 2040 Comprehensive Plan into effect.
2. Revise the City's sewer-serviced forecasts upward as shown in Table 2 of the attached Review Record.
3. Advise the City to:
 - a. Provide the date the City adopts the final LWMP and provide a copy of the final adopted LWMP for the Council's records.
 - b. Within 60 days after receiving DNR final approval, the City must adopt the MRCCA Plan, and submit a copy of the final adopted plan and evidence of adoption to the DNR, Council, and National Park Service within 10 days after the adoption.
 - c. Implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Forecasts, Land Use, and Water Supply.

Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions or discussion.

2020-214 City of Lake Elmo, Applewood Pointe Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Review File 22215-3

Senior Planner Raya Esmaeili presented the business item to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Lee, seconded by Cummings, that the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:

1. Authorize the City of Lake Elmo to place its Applewood Pointe comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
2. Find that the amendment does not change the City's forecasts.
3. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for transit.

Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions or discussion.

INFORMATION

1. Regional Parks Policy Plan Amendment and Draft System Additions Recommendation

Parks Manager Emmett Mullin, Planning Analyst Colin Kelly and Senior Planner Jessica Lee presented the information item to the Community Development Committee. Minnesota Statutes 473.147, subd. 1 directs the Metropolitan Council (Council) to plan for the Regional Parks System. In the Policy Plan, the

Council committed to convening a region-wide discussion about system additions in 2019, which began in October 2019 and has continued to the present day. In addition to the primary revision of system additions, the proposed amendment addresses the following changes, which are detailed further in Attachment 1 and Attachment 6:

- Inclusion of 26 new regional designations, including four regional park search areas; 18 regional trails, regional trail search corridors or search corridor extensions; one special recreation feature – bridging facility search area; and four park expansions (boundary adjustments).
- New policy for regional park and regional trail boundary adjustments.
- Language further describing special recreation feature – bridging facilities.
- Inclusion of the Council-adopted master plan equity analysis requirement for parks master plans.
- Additional policy clarifications and language updates.
- Update of the Regional Parks Policy Plan Workplan (Chapter 9).

After a solicitation of proposals from the regional park implementing agencies, the amendment proposes twenty-six new park and trail additions (regional designations) and expansions (boundary adjustments) to be included with the Regional Parks System (Attachment 2). Adding a search area for a park or trail to the Regional Parks System is considered a substantial revision to the Regional Parks Policy Plan (Policy Plan), requiring the Council to amend the Policy Plan and hold a public hearing.

Council staff consulted with the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission (MPOSC), Community Development Committee (CDC), Metropolitan Council members, and regional park implementing agencies (implementing agencies) in the development of this draft regional designation recommendation. Twenty-six proposed additions are recommended for inclusion into the System Plan of the Policy Plan with the caveat that some of the proposed units may require adjustments (Attachment 5). Two proposals are not recommended for inclusion: Carver County's County Road 40 and Highway 5 Regional Trail Search Corridors.

MPOSC's and CDC's comments guided the recommendation, focusing on the three foundational priorities that are rooted in Thrive MSP 2040 and the Policy Plan: natural resources, geographic balance, and equity. The recommendation is

2. Connecting Youth with the Regional Park System

Research staff Ellie Hohulin, Lucia Marquez Reagan, Gunnar Carlson, Sarah Gong, and Darcie Vandegrift presented the information item to the Community Development Committee. The youth and parks research project was realized through a collaborative process among five research interns, Council staff, four park implementing agencies and five youth serving organizations. Together, they collected data for the Council, implementing agencies, and other stakeholders to better understand how to improve access to the Regional Park System for youth ages 14 to 20. In fall 2019, research team members attended in-park experiences and analyzed data to answer four primary questions. Youth of color were centered in the research, completing data analysis and advising on the validity of research findings. The research answered four questions:

1. What are obstacles to youth access?
2. What does a great day in the park look like?
3. What advice, assets do youth have for advising the park about connecting the next generation of Minnesotans with the outdoors?
4. How can park implementing agencies and the Council build connections that remove barriers to park access and create outdoor access for young people?

The presentation described the research process, key findings, and recommendations. Feedback was solicited from Council Members regarding the following questions:

- What information from this report connects most directly with your priorities for the Council?
- How can Council collaboration with agencies and budget investments support connecting youth and parks?

3. 2019 Agricultural Preserves Program Senior Planner Jerome Benner II presented the information item to the Community Development Committee.

The Metropolitan Agricultural Preserves Program was established in 1980 by the Minnesota Legislature to encourage protection of long-term agricultural uses and to provide direction in equitably taxing these properties. The Metropolitan Council supports preserving agricultural land in the region through specific policies for protection and development in Thrive MSP 2040. All the counties in the region except for Ramsey County contain properties enrolled in the program. The Council annually reports on the acres enrolled in the program, with information from these counties and the Department of Revenue.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Michele Wenner
Recording Secretary